



## LIVINGSTON JOB SERVICE EMPLOYERS COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Jim Hunt  
Recorder – Sue Hanken

Minutes of the Meeting  
Tuesday, October 14, 2008

Minutes from September stand as written with the following comments:

\*Joe reiterated his comments from last month on the latest business trend that his store has experienced throughout the summer.

\*Manny stated that there is no definite date for shutting down the computers for Ford in Livingston. Chrysler Dodge Jeep will move in to the downtown Ford location once the transition is complete. There was a sale on all Ford vehicles. Manny stated that 90% of the sales went to people 70 years old or older. And of that 90% of older buyers, the majority paid cash. The other 10% went to young buyers who had grandparents cosign on the loans. Will still service Ford vehicles just no longer sell them. Those that come in to buy a Ford are still taken care of. Manny will call four different dealerships statewide to get the best bid on the car for the customer.

One out of five Ford dealerships are going to close and 300,000 jobs will be lost in the next six months. Also, service departments are down nationwide. People are waiting to service their cars until they absolutely have to in order to save money. It used to cost \$700.00 to ready a car on the lot. Now it costs \$1800.00 to get a car ready to put back on the lot. One Wisconsin GM store will close in December and 1200 people will be laid off then. There is a merger going on now between GM and Chrysler. GM has an electric car and Chrysler has the technology for a smaller battery so the two companies may merge on this project only in order to put out this model.

\*Susy stated that there is a glut on development in the local economy. We will see a recovery starting in 2009 but no real progress in building will be realized until possibly 2011. There will be no construction in Big Sky until the market comes back. We have seen a rebound in the markets yesterday and today.

Park High Business Course/Students – Regina Wood

Regina teaches eleven classes over the course of the school year. She is looking for guest speakers and folks to sign up to conduct interviews with students. She also needs judges for the Business Professionals of America (BPA) competition. It will take place on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, in the evening. Joe participated last year and said that the students who participated were very impressive and dynamic. Last year, 17 students participated. This year, 38 students from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades joined BPA and will be competing for Park High School in January. Regina is also working with the Math and English classes to teach students the relevance between the two fields and the business world. She also works with other teachers to educate students how to apply their Math and English knowledge to the real world and in business.

Regina and Zanya will meet to discuss incorporating a course or class on Working It Out For Supervisors into the High School class schedule. Zanya also offered to bring a condensed version of the course to a JSEC meeting.

Sue requested ideas for topics or speakers that may be used for the 2009/2010 Innovation in Business Conference Chris Wilhelm's email. Members discussed time management online, how to utilize email and internet and not lose productivity, how can internet save business money, and business incentive and employee incentives to increase productivity and allow the joys of email/internet on the job.

Hand Outs:

Unemployment Statistics

Montana Job Projections

Green Economic Stimulus Could Create 6,000 Jobs in Montana

**Next Meeting:**

Job Service will be closed on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, on observation of Veterans Day. We can reschedule our meeting for Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, instead. Will the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> work well for everyone?